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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**TWELVE INDICTED IN TWO \$10 MILLION CANADIAN
MARIJUANA TRAFFICKING CONSPIRACIES**

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced the indictment of twelve marijuana traffickers charged in two indictments unsealed today in U.S. District Court. Federal, state and local law enforcement officers from the region participated in the execution of arrest warrants related to the investigation in Indianapolis and Bloomington, Indiana. The indictments were the result of an investigation by the Louisville, Kentucky, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Seattle, Washington, offices of the Drug Enforcement Administration, the New Albany and Indianapolis offices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigations Division, the Bureau of

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Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Floyd County Sheriff's Department, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Integrated Border Enforcement Team, the Organized Crime Agency of British Columbia, and the New Albany, Bloomington and Victoria, Canada, Police Departments.

The first indictment charges six individuals with conspiracy to manufacture, distribute and possess with intent to distribute more than 1000 kilograms of marijuana. The individuals charged in the indictment are:

- Ewen Lilford, 30, of Port Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada; fugitive
- Christian Franke, 33, of Indianapolis, IN; in custody
- Jason Ferrazzi, 27, of Floyds Knobs, IN; awaiting initial hearing
- Norman Mundy, 28, of New Albany, IN; awaiting initial hearing
- Kenneth Kee, 27, of New Albany, IN; in custody
- Shane McCain, 29, of Floyds Knobs, IN; awaiting initial hearing

Lilford is also charged in a second count with conspiracy to import more than 1000 kilograms of marijuana into the United States from Canada.

The second indictment charges six different individuals within a separate conspiracy to manufacture, distribute and possess with intent to distribute more than 1000 kilograms of marijuana. The individuals charged in the second indictment are:

- James Van Elswyk, 28, of Bloomington, IN; fugitive
- Sharif Zaki, 27, of Indianapolis, IN; in custody
- Patricio Rivera, 31, of Jordan River, British Columbia, Canada; fugitive

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- Julie Simms, 22, of New Albany, IN; awaiting initial hearing
- Erin Kelley, 32, of New Albany, IN; awaiting initial hearing
- Brian Davis, 29, of Bloomington, IN; fugitive

The indictments allege two separate conspiracies to distribute a total of \$20 million worth of high quality, “B.C. Bud” marijuana supplied by members and associates of the Hell’s Angels motorcycle gang of British Columbia, Canada, to individuals in Southern Indiana. The first indictment alleges that from approximately May, 2000, until July, 2003, defendants Lilford, Franke, Ferrazzi, Mundy, Kee, McCain and others engaged in a conspiracy to import marijuana from Canada to Indiana for distribution in the New Albany area. The second indictment alleges that from approximately the Fall of 2000, until approximately October, 2003, defendants Van Elswyk, Zaki, Rivera, Davis, Kelley, Simms and others engaged in a conspiracy to import marijuana from Canada to Indiana for distribution in the Indianapolis, Bloomington and New Albany areas. The indictments also allege that members of the conspiracies also engaged in the production of marijuana in indoor growing facilities set up in British Columbia and Indiana.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Matthew P. Brookman, who is prosecuting the case for the government, the defendants, if convicted, face a maximum possible prison sentence of life imprisonment and a maximum possible fine of \$4,000,000.

Forfeiture has been filed against the following property alleged to have been derived from the alleged illegal activities:

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- 5 vehicles, including a Corvette
- \$25,000 in United States currency
- \$10,000 in Canadian currency
- Two homes:
 1. 9428 South Harbour Pointe Drive, Bloomington, Indiana
 2. 9686 South Pay Pointe Court, Bloomington, Indiana
- Baseball cards and sports memorabilia

An indictment is an allegation only, and all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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